

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re U.S. Patent Application of)
YASUDA et al.) Art Unit 2153
Application Number: 10/767,778)
Filed: January 30, 2004)
For: FILE REPLICATION METHOD FOR DISTRIBUTED)
FILE SYSTEMS)
ATTORNEY DOCKET No. NITT.0180)**

**Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend this application as outlined hereinbelow: